



# The Tool Box

Serving the Electrical, HVAC & Plumbing Industries Since 1912

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## Is A College Degree As Valuable Today? By Jim Mathis. The Reinvention Pro

Today more colleges are awarding degrees to people who cannot find employment. Young people have been told since I was a child that a four-year degree would be the ticket to employment and wealth.

Yet the blogs from graduates of my college today all are filled with graduates seeking some kind of employment.

The fact is that today there are more blue collar jobs available that pay in the five-digits for people than ever before. Mike Rowe, of the television show, "Dirty Jobs" says that trade schools outnumber major universities in placing graduates in full-time employment.

"It's a cultural rebuild," said Randy Emery, a welding instructor at the College of the Sequoias in California's Central Valley in an article by Mark Krupnick.

Standing in a cavernous teaching lab full of industrial equipment on the college's Tulare campus, Emery said the decades-long national push for high school graduates to get bachelor's degrees left vocational programs with an image problem, and the nation's factories with far fewer skilled workers than needed. "I'm a survivor of that teardown mode of the '70s and '80s, that college-for-all thing," he said. This has had the unintended consequence of helping flatten out or steadily erode the share of students taking vocational courses. In California's community colleges, for instance, it's dropped to 28 percent from 31 percent since 2000, contributing to a shortage of trained workers with more than a high school diploma but less than a bachelor's degree. "All throughout high school, they made it sound like going to college was our only option". Derrick Roberson, who is training to become an electrician. Research by the state's 114-campus community college system showed that families and employers alike didn't know of the existence or value of vocational programs and the certifications they confer, many of which can add tens of thousands of dollars per year to a graduate's income. "We needed to do a better job getting the word out," said Van Ton-Quinlivan, the system's vice chancellor for workforce and economic development. High schools and colleges have struggled for decades to attract students to job-oriented classes ranging from welding to nursing. They've tried cosmetic changes, such as rebranding "vocational" courses as "career and technical education," but students and their families have yet to buy in, said Andrew Hanson, a senior research analyst with Georgetown University's Center on Education and the Workforce. Federal figures show that only 8 percent of undergraduates are enrolled in certificate programs, which tend to be vocationally oriented. Mike Rowe of television's "Dirty Jobs" was quoted in an article by Matthew Wisner.

"There is no hope without an education, got to be clear, you have to have some competency. But the idea that the best path for the most people just happens to be the most expensive path, there's just something fundamentally corrupt," Rowe told the FOX Business Network's Stuart Varney. "The cost of college has just gone through the roof, and yet, we still talk about it as if it is truly the best way for the most people, \$1.3 trillion in student loans, it's not a mystery."

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Convention  
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Hammock  
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For A Listing  
See Page 5**



## Mechanical Member: **TRANE U. S., INC.**

- TRANE is excited to be expanding in the Carolinas! This year we've opened new offices in Greenville, Asheville and Raleigh to better serve our customers.
- As the world's largest manufacturer of commercial & industrial HVAC products, services, and control systems, we are proud to serve this region.
- Trane's Carolina District has 350 associates with offices in Charlotte, Asheville, Greenville, Florence, Columbia, and Charleston. We also have parts & supply stores in Spartanburg, Hickory, Matthews and Myrtle Beach. Light commercial equipment thru 25 tons is stocked in Columbia as well as Charlotte for next-day delivery anywhere in the Carolinas.
- Trane is proud to offer comprehensive solutions tailored to your unique needs. We are a full service provider of new equipment from 1 to 3000 tons, existing building service, building automation & controls, energy retrofit services, performance contracting, parts and supplies.
- *Trane...the products and services you need, when you need them...backed by the very best people in the industry!*

**Trane U. S., Inc.**  
**412 Fairforest Way**  
**Greenville, SC 29607-4436**  
**Phone: (864) 672-6000 Fax: (864) 672-6001**

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### **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Gina Hinds	9/1	Smith, Kesler & Company	Wife of Steve
April White	9/3	Precision Plumbing Co. of Sandy Run	
Tom Frisby	9/3	The Frisby Group - Honorary Life Member	
Stan Harbour	9/3	H. R. Allen, Inc.	
Mike Richardson	9/4	Atlantic Electric	
Lisa Simpson	9/7	Honorary Life Member	Wife of Al
Ned Forsberg	9/9	Honorary Life Member	
MaryJane White	9/11	Walker White, Inc.	Wife of Bob
Art Brewer	9/12	Honorary Life Member	
Robert McWilliams	9/12	Columbia Cooling & Heating Co., Inc.	
Linda Burkett	9/12	ASAC	
Pete Bailey	9/15	C. R. Hipp Construction	
Tom Brock	9/15	Brook Haven Farms	
Wayne McCartha	9/18	McCartha, Cobb & Associates	
Paul Roesel	9/20	The Sack Company	
Tommy Walkup	9/20	Walkup Electrical Construction, LLC	
Donna Whatley	9/21	Greenville Mechanical	Wife of John
Roddy Allen	9/23	H. R. Allen, Inc. - Charleston	
Mitch Clark	9/24	RepSouth	
Del Laquiere	9/24	Triad Mechanical Contractors, Inc.	
Lisa Rabon	9/25	Honorary Life Member	Wife of Jim
Debbie Williams	9/29	Cashion Electricians, Inc.	Wife of John
Darlene McGee	9/30	Honorary Life Member	
Bob Miller	9/30	Miller HVAC Service	

*Happy Birthday Members!*

*We Would Like To Announce Yours. If you would like to be listed,  
 please call the Birthday Hotline at 803-772-7834 or Email to [mflowers@mcasc.com](mailto:mflowers@mcasc.com)*

## “Tool Box Talks” - Safety Tip

### SEVEN-TENTHS OF A SECOND

Look at your watch and see how long one second really is. If you have a stop watch, try to stop the stop watch at seven-tenths of a second. Now that you know how long that is, consider what happens in the first seven-tenths of a second when an automobile traveling 55mph hits a solid object and the driver is not wearing his/hers seat belt and shoulder belt.

In the first tenth of a second, the front bumper and grille collapse.

In the second tenth of a second, the hood crumples, raises and strikes the windshield while the rear wheels are lofted from the ground, still spinning at 55 mph. Simultaneously, the fenders begin wrapping themselves around the object that was just struck by the car. The frame of the car has stopped moving, but the rest of the car is still traveling 55 mph. The driver instinctively stiffens his legs against the crash and they snap at the knee joint.

During the third tenth of a second, the steering wheel starts to disintegrate in the driver's hands and the steering column is aimed at the driver's chest.

The fourth tenth of a second finds the first two feet of the car's front end wrecked, the rear moving at 35 mph, but the driver's body still traveling at 55 mph.

In the fifth tenth of a second (a "split second"), the driver is impaled on the steering column and his lungs begin to fill with blood.

In the sixth tenth of a second, the driver's feet are ripped out of his shoes, the brake pedal snaps off and the car frame buckles in the middle. The driver's head smashes through the windshield as the rear wheels fall back to earth.

In the seventh tenth of a second, doors fly open, hinges rip loose and the seats break free, striking the driver from behind. The driver does not feel the seat striking him, because he is already dead!

A lot has happened in less than one second. Think about how long one second is the next time you decide not to wear a seat belt. Think about how long seven-tenths of a second is. Then think how long eternity is.



## C. R. Hipp Construction Announces New VP, CFO

C.R. Hipp Construction, Inc. is pleased to announce the promotion of Shealee Harmon, CPA to Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Shealee joined the C.R. Hipp Construction team in 2016 as Controller. She brings to the Company 22 years of accounting experience, including 18 years in construction accounting and management. Born and raised in Charleston, Shealee is a graduate of the College of Charleston, is a Certified Public Accountant, and is a member of the AICPA, SCACPA, and NAWIC.

### Update Your Outlook

Let us know if we need to update your Outlook  
or if you know someone who does!

### Welcome New Members

**Midlands**    **Matt Patterson**  
**Turbeville Insurance Agency**  
**Columbia**

### Upcoming Events

***11th Annual Pee Dee Blast***  
***Sporting Clays Event***  
**Friday, September 21, 2018**  
**Back Woods Quail Club, Georgetown**



### Anniversaries

**Mr. & Mrs. Ned Forsberg - 9/1**  
**Mr. & Mrs. Al Hitchcock - 9/4**  
**Mr. & Mrs. Bucky Cole - 9/7**  
**Mr. & Mrs. Todd Soderlund - 9/12**

(Continued from page 1)

Rowe says millions of American jobs don't require a college education. "I'm fascinated by the skills gap. The existence of opportunity shouldn't be a polemic, it shouldn't be political, but of course today everything is right? But 5.6 million jobs that exist as we speak 75% of which do not require a four-year degree are sitting there."

Rowe says putting an emphasis on college education sends many graduates into the work force saddled with high debt - and without skills that could have been acquired more affordably at vocational schools.

"We have this subordinate view of all kinds of different forms of education that lead to these opportunities, therefore we have the same subordinate view of all these jobs that go begging."

Have we put too much emphasis on a four-year degree?

Permission is granted to reprint this article provided the following paragraph is included in full:

Jim Mathis, CSP is an international Certified Speaking Professional, executive coach and trainer. To subscribe to his free personal and professional development newsletter, please send an email to: [subscribe@jimmathis.com](mailto:subscribe@jimmathis.com) with the word SUBSCRIBE in the subject. An electronic copy will be sent out to you every month. For more information on how Jim and his programs can benefit your organization or group, please call 888-688-0220, or visit his web site: [www.jimmathis.com](http://www.jimmathis.com)

## When The Meeting Breaks ... The Ocean Awaits!

Hammock Beach Resort, Palm Coast, FL

August 2-5, 2018



# When The Meeting Breaks ... The Ocean Awaits!

MCASC 174<sup>th</sup> Semi-Annual Convention – August 2-5, 2018

Hammock Beach Resort – Palm Coast, FL

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**2018 MCASC Summer Convention – AWARD WINNERS  
Hammock Beach Resort  
Palm Coast, FL**



**POKER AWARDS**

**Champion:**

**Ned Forsberg**

**FISHING AWARDS**

**BIGGEST CATCH**

**BIGGEST FISH TALE**

**Ryan Laquiere**

**Colby Brock**

**GOLF AWARDS**

**1st Place**

**Anthony Reddish**

**Jason Shaluly**

**Colin Shropshire**

**Chris Wallace**

**2nd Place**

**Mark Horne**

**Billy Motroni**

**Joe Richardson**

**Kevin Robinson**

**Long Drive:**

**# 9 Billy Motroni**

**Chipping in:**

**# 9 Gary Kirkland**



**SHOPPING AWARD**

**The Retail Therapy Award:**

**Karen Linden**



**OTHER AWARDS**

**EDUCATION PICK A WINNER AWARD:**

**Alan King**

**EDUCATION PICK A WINNER AWARD:**

**Jane Armstrong**

**Associate Member:  
CHARLOTTE PIPE AND FOUNDRY COMPANY**

Charlotte Pipe and Foundry Company is the nation's leading maker of cast iron and plastic pipe and fittings. Based in Charlotte, NC, their broad line of products include ABS, PVC, CPVC, cast iron and FlowGuard Gold® pipe and fittings, for both commercial and residential plumbing systems.

The company's tagline, "You Can't Beat the System," refers to more than just its full line of products. The system is also focused on people and service. The company treats associates like family, manufacture top-of-the-line products, and take care of customers' needs during every step of the order process and beyond.

This system has made Charlotte Pipe an industry leader for over a century and it is a system that cannot be beat. More information can be found at [www.charlottepipe.com](http://www.charlottepipe.com).

**Charlotte Pipe & Foundry Company  
PO Box 35430  
Charlotte, NC 28235-5430  
Phone: (704) 372-5030 Fax: (800) 553-1605**

**Quotable Quotes**

**Tell me and I forget.  
Teach me and I remember.  
Involve me and I learn.**

**Benjamin Franklin**

**Congratulations to our next Associate & Mechanical Members who will be  
highlighted in the upcoming issue of "The Tool Box":  
Turbeville Insurance Agency, Inc., Columbia - Associate Member  
Hayes and Lunsford Electric, Greer - Mechanical Member**

**SEPTEMBER 2018 MONTHLY AREA MEETINGS**

**MIDLANDS AREA**

Thursday September 6, 2018 @ 6:00 PM  
Location: 1222 Bluff Road, Columbia  
Sponsored By: Murray Supply Company

**Topic: "Central SC Economic Development Update"  
Presented By: Mike Briggs, President & CEO  
Central SC Alliance**

**PEE DEE AREA**

Friday, September 21, 2018 @ 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM  
Location: Back Woods Quail Club, 647 Hemingway Lane,  
Georgetown  
Sponsored By: Pee Dee Area

**11th ANNUAL PEE DEE BLAST  
SPORTING CLAYS EVENT**

**PIEDMONT AREA**

Tuesday September 18, 2018 @ 6:00 PM  
Location: Local Cue, 30 Orchard Park Drive, Suite 7, Greenville  
Sponsored By: Johnson Controls, Inc.

**Topic: "TBA"  
Presented By: TBA**

**COASTAL AREA**

Tuesday, September 25, 2018 @ 6:30 PM  
Location: 4447 Dorchester Road, North Charleston  
Sponsored by: Eck Supply Company

**Topic: "TBA"  
Presented By: TBA**



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www.mcasc.com

*Serving mechanical contractors in  
South Carolina since 1912.*

**MCASC Executive Board & Staff**

**Bob Miller, President**  
**Edward Gibbs, Vice-President**  
**Mike Richardson, Treasurer**  
**Duwayne Jacobs, Secretary**  
**Leslie Whitehurst, Associate President**  
**Mona Flowers, Managing Director**

Mechanicals make it happen -  
Be part of the best!

**MCASC Vision Statement**

**The Mechanical Contractors Association of South Carolina (MCASC) will be the leading construction association in South Carolina for specialty contractors and suppliers in the electrical, mechanical (HVAC), and plumbing fields by serving its membership, the industry, and the Community in a vibrant and harmonious fashion.**

**MCASC Mission Statement**

**The Mechanical Contractors Association of South Carolina (MCASC) will provide its membership with:**

- current business/technical information and support
  - a proactive political/legislative agenda
- a joint industry collaboration to improve relative business practices
- an ongoing effort to offer training opportunities for both professional and craft personnel
  - educational scholarships for deserving students
- the development of industry related career opportunities

**The Association's objective for this mission is to enhance the future of the Construction Industry in South Carolina.**